

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-96 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 97-112 have been added and will be pending upon entry of the present Amendment. The claims have been amended to advance prosecution, without prejudice. The claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. At a minimum, the claim amendments are submitted to place the application in better condition for appeal.

Acceptance of the drawings, or specific objection and/or rejection of the same, is requested.

The Section 112, first paragraph "enablement", rejection of claims 71-80 and 82-96, will be moot upon entry of the present Amendment. The amended claims are submitted to be supported by an enabling disclosure and consideration of the following in this regard is requested.

The Examiner's indication that the specification is enabling for methods of producing a vaccine composition comprising propagating Yellow Fever Virus YF17D in chick embryo fibroblasts is acknowledged, with appreciation. See, page 3 of the Office Action dated May 26, 2004. The amended claims are believed to recite subject matter acknowledged by the Examiner to be supported by an enabling disclosure. Entry of the present Amendment is requested to at least eliminate the issue of the enablement rejection for any required appeal.

The Section 112, second paragraph, rejection of claims 71-96 will be moot upon entry of the present Amendment. The applicants submit that the claim language used in step (b) of the claimed method defines a range for the cell density. The applicants

believe that one of ordinary skill in the art will be able to measure and adjust the cell density of the culture without undue experimentation.

In relation to the units cells/cm² used to describe cell densities, the applicants note that to conduct the working example for the invention it was necessary to trypsinize the cells, then a suspension of trypsinized cells is prepared to seed in bottles. The preparation of this cell suspension (dilution) takes into account the area where the cells would adhere (dispensed volume in each bottle versus the concentration of the cells (cells/mL) / total area of the bottle). That is, the total number of cells seeded in the bottle divided by the total area of the bottle = cells/cm². It should be also pointed out that the use of units cells/cm² avoids problems with the alterations of the volumes required for different types of bottles or systems used to cultivate cells.

The claims are submitted to be definite in this regard.

With respect to the Examiner's comments in the second paragraph of page 7 of the Office Action dated May 26, 2004, the claims have been amended to define a process similar to Example 1 of the specification. The amended claims are submitted to be definite.

Entry of the present Amendment and a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned in the event anything further is required in this regard.

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Respectfully submitted,

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